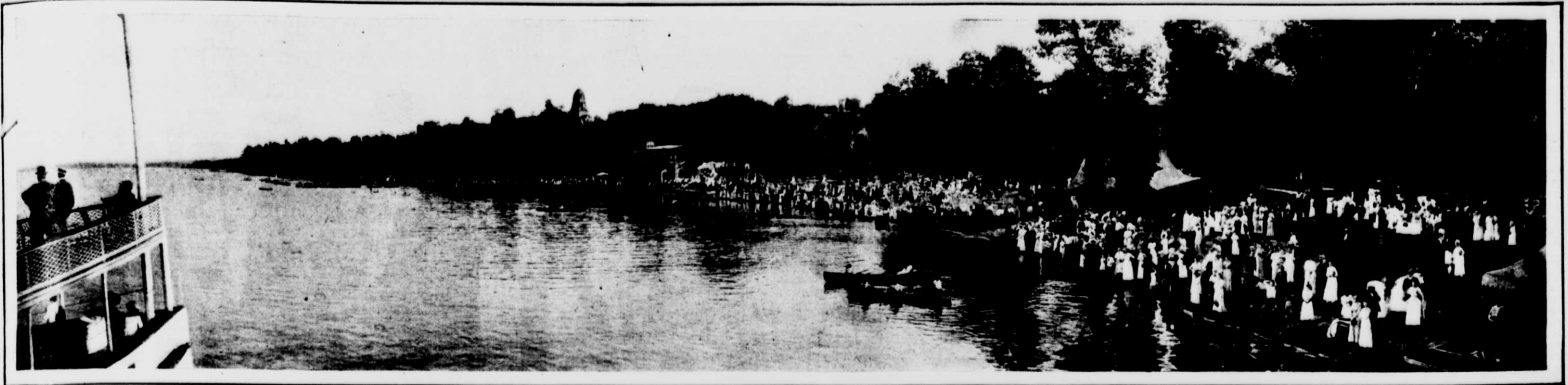


CELEBRATING FORTIETH BIRTHDAY OF A DREAM REALIZED



Chautauquans watching the flight of a hydro-aeroplane.

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Tremendous Growth of the Chautauqua Idea, Conceived by Bishop Vincent and Lewis Miller on Aug. 4, 1874



Dr. George E. Vincent

MAYOR MITCHELL and Commissioner Katharine Bement Davis have become Chautauqua speakers. Their names are on the list of distinguished New Yorkers who have appeared on the platform of the original assembly at Chautauqua, N. Y.

This is a gala summer up there on Lake Chautauqua, for they are celebrating the fortieth anniversary of the establishment of the assembly. A notable group of lecturers are helping, other New Yorkers being Hamilton Holt, Justice W. L. Ransom, Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, Mrs. Charlotte Perkins Gilman and Edwin Slosson.

On Old First Night—Tuesday, August 4, it is the year—the celebration culminates. The scene on Old First Night is always the most characteristic of the Chautauqua summer. Five thousand people gather in the open amphitheatre, and in the quiet of the early evening follow Chancellor Vincent, the originator of the Chautauqua idea, through a vesper service.

It is the same that he prepared for the opening night of the first assembly, and it has been used ever since. Then, while the chimes of the big organ toll the vast throng holds the drooping handkerchiefs, which later will flutter easily in greeting to some distinguished visitor in a Chautauqua salute in memory of Bishop Vincent's co-founder of Chautauqua, Lewis Miller, and of other early supporters of the Chautauqua movement. He must be unimaginative indeed who is not touched by the silent tribute to the dead.

Touched to tears are some, even of the old visitors who have seen the ceremony many times before. Songs written especially for Chautauqua and endeared by long acquaintance are sung, and then with a quick turn away from sentiment come the speakers, one after the other piling up jokes, reminiscences and tributes in crisp two minute talks. Asked what struck him as the most interesting feature of Old First Night, a new arrival exclaimed: "By George, the collection of \$10,000 in twenty minutes."

That was the year when that amount was needed to finish the Hall of Christ. Some, fearing to be applied to the community fund is made every year on Old First Night, but that is the only time you hear anything about money when you have paid your gate ticket and your summer school fees. All the platform pleasures, lectures, readings, concerts are as free as air.

Far more interesting to most people than the collection is the series of roll calls which follows the money getting. All those who were present at the first session in 1874 rise. There are often a score or more of them. All those who were present at the second session rise, and so on down the years, an astonishing number having visited the lake three, twenty, thirty times. Then comes the roster of members of the Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle. The home reading course began in 1878 and the first class to finish the four years work was the pioneers of 1882. There they are, a lot of them, more than many classes much later years, and they beam at the applause which always rings out to greet them. The classes that always receive special mention are those which have come back to celebrate their twenty-fifth or thirty-fifth anniversaries—this year the class of 1889 and the Lewis Millers, the class that is about to graduate, the lucky class in 1914 and the new class just enrolling, which vies in numbers with the representatives of the graduating class, "Representatives"

evening the graduates meet by themselves in the Hall of Philosophy, and in the flickering light of the Athenian fires flaming from tripods around the Greek Temple listen to words of encouragement from the Rev. Dr. Jesse Lyman Hurlbut of Newark, who has conducted this service for many years.

On Monday the graduates breakfasted or dined or supped together. On Tuesday evening Alumni Hall was thrown open to all Chautauqua, the graduating class received in the largest room and all the other classes in their respective rooms.

Wednesday was the big day of the

ing important, the alumni pinning on oak leaves, which indicate their status. Banners fluttering, each bearing the name of the class it leads—the Irrepressibles, the Pierian, the Tennyson, the Quarter Century, thirty-seven in all, for the undergraduates are carrying temporary banners, even down to the class of 1918, just enrolling.

Across the plaza they sweep and down the hill and along the lake front to the chancellor's cottage, where he and the orator of the day, this year President E. B. Bryan of Colgate University, joined the ranks. Turning again up the hill,

day in the year; no one who has not read "The Course" ever has been through it, even a baby in arms; no one passes through it twice.

The guard of the gate inspects the credentials of every waiting person before he enters and passes under the arches symbolizing science, history, religion, between lines of welcoming singers who have come down from the hall to meet the newcomers. The benignant chancellor stands at the head of the steps.

Once seated a brief service of recognition is gone through, a song is sung and mosaic tablets newly added to the

Anniversary Ceremonies Will Close on Tuesday, Old First Night—How Event Was Observed

Little flower girls after their escort duty is over. They sat in a rustic arbor, where they consumed ice cream with every appearance of having earned it by strenuous toil.

In the afternoon the graduates met again in the Hall of Philosophy and the chancellor's word of commendation as he gave out the diplomas was a heartener to all who were fortunate enough to receive it. In the evening the banquet, sadly misnamed as regards the fleshy portion of the feast, but usually balanced by the speeches, which was exceedingly merry under the handling of the man who has been called the "Wittiest toastmaster in the United States," Dr. George E. Vincent, son of the chancellor, president of Chautauqua Institution and of the University of Minnesota.

The annual circus usually falls in recognition week. It is given by the young men of the athletic club, and it has merits besides those afforded by the satisfaction of seeing people you know do stunts you've heard them talk about. In the first place they are really good stunts. In the next it gives every member of the audience amusement to see Dr. Vincent beating a pan and Earl Barnes rubbing sandpaper in a kindersymphony (as they once did in a kindersymphony) in Hiccup. Halfway and to hear jocular rhymes about the officers of the institution and the lecturers on the platform. Needless to say there is a parade—a parade of ingenuity in which almost all the most prominent men of Europe and America appear, usually on floats, and appropriately placarded.

Far back in the days of simple amusements the spelling match used to stand out as a prize taker. It has continued at Chautauqua through the years and is one of the features of the season. A ten dollar gold piece acts as a stimulant, and the applause is impartially given to winners and losers alike. Last year some twenty odd representatives of New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania held one side against as many representatives of the rest of the world on the other. Pennsylvania won, with New York second, both winners being men, where the year before the winners were women. The first word misspelled was "Bacchanal." The young woman who tackled it made four mistakes in the three syllables. It was evident that she didn't know Bacchanus from Psyche. Highly commendable in real life, but an academic acquaintance with the vinous god might have saved her a gold piece.

For some years past the Coburn Players have supplied the dramatic element in the summer's programme by giving one or two plays of the sort commonly called classic. This year an organization of experienced amateurs was on the grounds throughout the season to give half a dozen good modern plays. "The Passing of the Third Floor Back" was the first in the repertoire. Two years ago the Ben Gough version of "Bardell and Pickwick" created great amusement; Francis Wilson (who is a C. L. S. C. graduate and who used to have a reading circle of his actors) brought a company to the lake at another time; a parent of Chautauqua history was the leading feature of yet another session.

On the musical side, while there are always several concerts a week and the opportunities of hearing excellent music with the best voices, an orchestra chorus and a big organ are frequent, the

visit of the Damrosch Orchestra was an event for the whole of Chautauqua county. The audience in the amphitheatre was nearer six thousand than five, the experts said, and the response was gratifying to the conductor.

This year, by way of marking the fortieth anniversary, Victor Herbert's Orchestra will stay at Chautauqua for an entire week, and of the thirty events on the day's programme two will be concerts, the orchestra being supplemented by the Schubert Club of male voices from Schenectady, the big Chautauqua chorus, the orchestra, band, organ and the Chautauqua soloists, who include Ernest Hutcheson of Berlin, pianist; Sol Marcossion of Cleveland, violinist, and a quartet of skilled singers—Elizabeth Parks, Nevada Van der Veer, Reed Miller and Gwyllim Miles, all of New York.

All these features are the lighter element of a Chautauqua programme. There are daily lectures and addresses of a serious nature. Hamilton Holt gave the Fourth of July oration; Earl Barnes is to give a series of talks on the "Education of the American Girl." Prof. Francis Gammon is to give a series on ballads, President Lincoln Huley on "American Popular Poetry."

When Prof. Scott Nearing and his coworkers get through talking about the high cost of living it is hoped that some solution of that problem will have been approached. Dr. Edwin Slosson of the Independent is to tell about "Modern Philosophical Tendencies" as they are presented by Bergson, Eucken, Maeterlinck, Melchior, Of course there are reading hours and illustrated lecture hours.

The Symphony of New York

ONE day a great orchestral composer set himself the task of writing the symphony of New York. For many weeks he labored, only to be dissatisfied with the result.

"It is too sweet and too suave," he commented. "It has none of the characteristics of this particular, great city, in spite of my dissonances and cacophony. I have surely not made use of the right instruments."

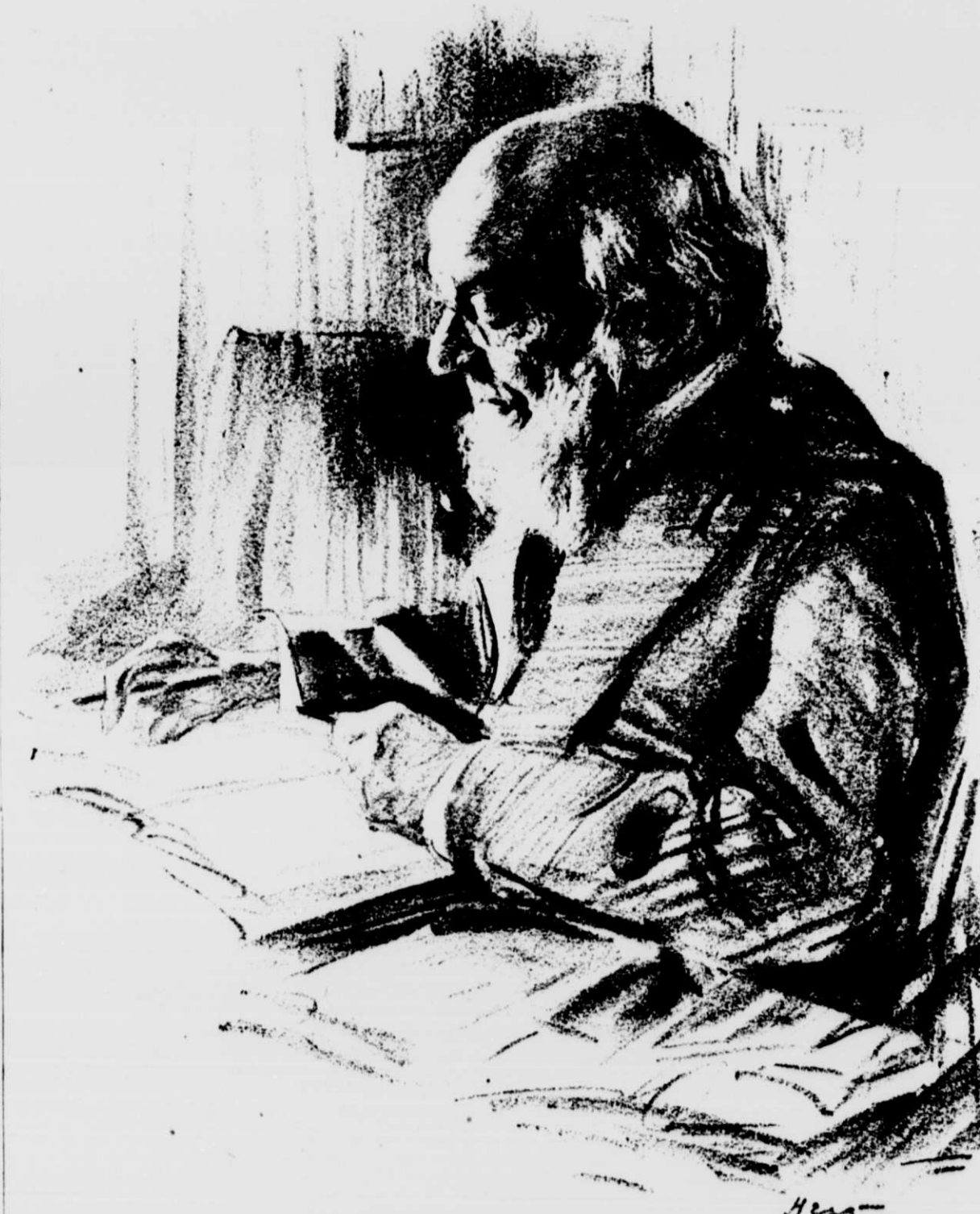
So he removed the caressing strings and replaced them with automobile horns. This brought it decidedly nearer the effect desired.

Then the birdlike flutes and reeds were out of place and gave way to a brace of trolley gongs. The horns and gongs outbalanced the brasses and tympani, which in turn made place for a quartet of ferry whistles.

And yet the discord lacked much of typifying New York; so a riveting machine was added, and then a rock drill. And after many more weeks of thought, worry and experiment, the other things that were necessary for the rounding out of this monumental task.

When the symphony was finally completed and its composer acclaimed a greater musician than Richard Strauss the instruments that were lined up for its interpretation were:

- 20 first auto horns.
- 20 taxi auto horns.
- 12 cash registers.
- 4 elevated train rumbler.
- 4 subway train rumbler.
- 6 bass motor truck horns.
- 4 forty whistles.
- 2 tug sirens.
- 2 steam rock drills.
- 2 riveting machines.
- 18 milkmen's bells.
- 10 yelling newboys.
- 1 fire engine.
- 14 popping champagne bottles.
- 4 Grand Central engine bells and whistles.
- 1 ambulance gong.
- 16 typewriters.
- 12 cash registers.
- 1 derrier whistle.
- 1 dynamite blast.
- 8 revolving vestibule doors.
- 2 ticket choppers.
- 14 sweating midwestern.
- 10 elevated and subway conductors calling stations.



Bishop John Heyl Vincent in his study, 1912.

week. Early in the morning the young women who have charge of the flower girls were busy in the public square with their fragment burdens of blossoms. The band went back and forth, escorting one and another division to the meeting place. The marshals look-

they stack banners and filed into the Hall of Philosophy, there to await the graduating class.

These candidates for recognition gathered at the Golden Gate, the entrance to St. Paul's Grove, surrounding the hall. This gate is hung for this one

handsome border that is being laid in the floor by the C. L. S. C. classes are dedicated, and then the procession reforms and marches to the amphitheatre to listen to the oration of the day.

One of the most joyous sights of the whole affair was the gathering of the



The amphitheatre at Chautauqua, N. Y.